**STATE OF TENNESSEE**
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**
**CONSTRUCTION DIVISION**
SUITE 700, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING
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**JOHN C. SCHROER**
COMMISSIONER

**BILL HASLAM**
GOVERNOR

1. The 18 foot deep steel haunch girders can be supplied in 2 stacked pieces. Are the dimensions of that existing situation available?

   ***Structures Comment:***

   ***There are prints of the Carolina Steel Fabrication Inc. shop drawings (circa 1999) for the haunch girders in TDOT Structures files. There should be microfilm or CD's of the shop drawings in the TDOT archives but we have not located them. The prints are on 12" X 18" sheets which make them inconvenient to copy. If the effort is justified copies can be made and provided to TDOT Headquarters Construction for their discretionary use.***

   ***The existing shop drawings are a reference only and are not to be construed to be an extension of the TDOT Structures plans drawings nor are they to be construed to constrain the Contractor/Fabricator to use an identical detail. The Contractor/Fabricator will be entirely responsible for the design and configuration of the horizontal splice joint should they elect to pursue that as an option.***

2. Will there be a Metric to English conversion available for the steel materials that are not domestically available in Metric?

   ***Structures Comment:(As pertains to the Olgiati Bridge scope of work)***

   ***The bridge components applied to this project are not remarkably different from those supplied on the previous widening - which was also in metric units. There should be no issues with domestic availability based on the outcome of past construction on the Olgiati bridge.***

   ***TDOT metric dimensions generally represent a soft metric conversion consistent with the principles described in the TDOT Metric Conversion Manual. Particular occurrences of material unavailability requiring a material substitution shall be submitted to TDOT Structures for approval.***

3. For the retaining wall foundation requirements (improvements), are those improvements included in the wall price or will it be paid under other pay items in the contract.

   All walls, with the exception of walls 18 and 20, will be bid in accordance with SP 624. Per SP 624, the method of payment is square feet and the Basis of Payment, "The earth retaining wall, complete in place and accepted, shall be paid for at the contact square foot bid price. The bid price for walls shall include as required: grading and compaction of wall foundation, undercutting and backfilling of weak surficial zones, installation of ground improvement, footing excavation, presplitting, sheeting, shoring, drilling, piles, lagging, grouting, concrete, reinforcing steel, reinforcement strips or mesh, tie strips or rods, fasteners, connectors, wire mesh baskets, prefabricated modular components, post tensioning, performance testing and evaluation, architectural treatment and/or texture finish, drainage system, water-stops and joint sealing material, moment slabs, and all miscellaneous material and labor for the complete installation of the wall. If the contractor's design requires the use of select granular backfill, the unit price bid for the wall shall be full compensation for any additional backfill costs due to the use of select backfill material."

4. Wall #18 has a detail for #57 coarse aggregate backfill. We have been unable to find a bid item for this. Is this to be included in the cost of the wall or will the department issue a pay item? Will we be required to use #57 stone above natural ground?

   A revision dated 7/30/15 was processed to include a bid item quantity 303-10.03for the #57 coarse aggregate backfill to be used in wall 18's construction. The #57 stone is required above the natural or existing ground line as indicated in the plans on U-059-054. The stone should be placed no more than eight (8) feet from the back of the wall.

5. Geotechnical Retaining Wall Report: Walls 20 and 20A Section 4.2.2 2nd paragraph states: "If contractor encounters bedrock during drilling for soldier piles, socket the piles into the rock to the depth/elevation required for stability by the wall designer, contact the wall designer for specific requirements for the altered piles."
   Question: If the contractor encounters bedrock above bottom of wall elevation, will it be required to drill to the bottom of the wall elevation?

   If contractor encounters bedrock during soldier pile installation, at an elevation above bottom of wall elevation, contractor shall advance soldier pile excavation in accordance with payment item 204-14 "Core Drilling for Piles (Rock)," to a minimum tip elevation of five (5) feet below bottom of wall.